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FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7090  
INFO RUCNWSN/THE WASSENAAR ARRANGEMENT COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 0521

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 000210

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/01/2017  
TAGS: [MTCRE](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [MNUC](#) [KSCA](#) [TSPA](#) [ETTC](#) [IT](#)  
SUBJECT: ITALY UNABLE TO FILL MTCR CHAIRMANSHIP FOR 2007-08

REF: A. ROME 175

[1](#)B. 2006 STATE 203458

Classified By: Acting Ecmin Kathleen Reddy for Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

[1](#)1. (C) Acting Ecmin spoke February 1 with Carlo Tripepi, Director of the MFA office responsible for Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) issues, regarding GOI willingness to serve as MTCR Chair for 2007-08. According to Tripepi, Italy is not in a position to serve as MTCR Chair because budget cuts at the MFA have led to shortages of personnel and financial resources. Tripepi estimated that filling the MTCR Chairman's position for a year would cost 200,000 euros and require a full-time staff of three. Tripepi speculated that if the MFA had the money and personnel to spare, they would likely be used to meet other priorities. (Note: As reported ref A, the MFA is having difficulties meeting the staffing challenges created by Italy's rotation onto the UNSC. End note.)

[1](#)2. (C) Tripepi noted that Italy previously served as MTCR Chair in 1987, and said Italy might be in a better position to Chair the MTCR in 2008-09.  
SPOGLI